

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6445

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 2853

EMBASSY PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR LE VAN
LOI TO RVN FOREIGN MINISTRY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, VS

SUBJECT: RVN AMBASSADOR LE VAN LOI'S REPORT

REF: NAIROBI 2802, SAIGON 4323

QTE

1. THANK YOU FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON OMAN. LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE
WILL END FRIDAY APRIL 5 AND I WILL RETURN GENEVA SATURDAY, APRIL
6.

2. RELATIONS WITH KENYA: UPON INTRODUCTION OF MR. F.X. NJENGA,
MEMBER OF KENYAN DELEGATION TO GROUP OF 77, I MET THIS MORNING
MR. E.G. AWIMBO, UNDER SECRETARY FOR ASIA AND AUSTRALIA AT MIN-
ISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FOR 90 MINUTE TALK ON FUTURE RELATION-
SHIP BETWEEN KENYA AND RVN. HE MENTIONED FORTHCOMING VISIT OF
RVN GOODWILL MISSION AND SAID THAT HE WILL RECEIVE IT ON APRIL
10.

3. I THANKED HIM FOR THE KENYAN GOVERNMENT'S WILLINGNESS TO
RECEIVE OUR DELEGATION. I SUMMED UP THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH
KENYA AND RVN HAD JOINED TOGETHER IN VARIOUS CONFERENCES SUCH
AS UNCTAD AND THE GROUP OF 77 SINCE 1964. I ALSO POINTED OUT
THAT RVN HAD LENT SUPPORT TO KENYA AT STOCKHOLM FOR CHOICE
OF NAIROBI AS HEADQUARTERS OF UNEP. HE WAS FAVOURABLY SURPRISED
BY SUCH A POSITIVE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ON THE
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MULTILATERAL FRONT. I ADDED THAT RVN IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT

NAIROBI AS SITE OF UNCTAD IV.

4. AWIMBO THEN EXPLAINED THE KENYAN POSITION ON VIETNAM: QTE WE ARE VERY CAUTIOUS IN CASES OF DIVIDED COUNTRIES SUCH AS VIETNAM. WE DO NOT WANT TO TAKE SIDES AS WORLD MAY THINK WE ARE LEANING TO RUSSIAN SIDE OR TO AMERICAN SIDE. WE PREFER TO SEE TWO VIETNAMS FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION THEMSELVES, THEN WE WILL CONSIDER ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THEM. UNQTE

5. I REPLIED THE PARIS AGREEMENTS ON VIETNAM PROVIDE EXACTLY THAT BASE FOR THE KENYAN APPROACH. OUR DIPLOMACY IS NOW GEARED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS PEACE AGREEMENT (HERE I MADE A LONG ANALYSIS OF THE AGREEMENT). THEREFORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH RVN WILL ENHANCE THE ROLE OF NEUTRAL KENYA TO ENCOURAGE THE TWO VIETNAMS TO ABIDE BY THEIR COMMITMENTS TO PEACE, TO RECONSTRUCT AND DEVELOP THEIR ECONOMIES AND THEREFORE TO ESTABLISH ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF 77 SUCH AS KENYA.

6. AWIMBO THEN NOTED DOWN ALL THE AFRICAN AND ASIAN COUNTRIES THAT HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH RVN. HE WAS VERY INTERESTED IN THE MARKET POTENTIAL OF 20 MILLION VIETNAMESE FOR KENYAN PRODUCTS SUCH AS COFFEE. AWIMBO THINKS IT IS TIME TO TAKE A MORE DYNAMIC APPROACH TO VIETNAM AND ASKED ME TO PROVIDE HIM WITH MEMORANDUM SUMMING UP FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. PARIS AGREEMENT,

B. ASSOCIATION OF RVN AND KENYA ON MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY,

C. PRESENT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS OF RVN WITH OTHER NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES,

D. PROSPECTS OF TRADE BETWEEN KENYA AND RVN.

7. PLEASE INSTRUCT OUR GOODWILL MISSION TO BE PREPARED TO TAKE UP THESE MATTERS WITH KENYAN AUTHORITIES AND TO PROVIDE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION. UNQTE
MARSHALL

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